

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

December 10, 2021

Bob Chapek  
CEO  
Disney  
425 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, SW #1100  
Washington, DC 20024

Dear Mr. Chapek:

We write today regarding disturbing reports of yet another instance of Disney cowering to the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). Specifically, *The Wall Street Journal* reported that when Disney+ launched its Hong Kong service it included all 32 seasons of “The Simpsons,” yet the “episode from season 16 [that] centers on a trip to China” was not included.<sup>1</sup> That episode, censored by Disney, includes a reference to the 1989 uprising in Tiananmen Square, and the subsequent massacre of Chinese citizens by the Chinese military.<sup>2</sup>

We are deeply concerned by the apparent decision of Disney to scrub history on behalf of the Communist tyrants in Beijing, even in a satirical environment like “The Simpsons.” This deplorable action raises serious questions of yet another American company undermining American principles at the apparent demand of the CCP. In light of this action, please answer the following questions by December 31, 2021:

- Prior to launching your Disney+ service in Hong Kong, did the CCP review content expected to launch?
  - If yes, please identify when you provided the CCP the ability to scrub your content to make censorship decisions.
  - If no, did Disney self-censor this episode? Why?
- Does Disney view itself as a US company that operates globally, or a global company that also operates in the US?
- Did the CCP at any time hint at a shutdown or slowdown of operations at Shanghai Disneyland during the review of streaming this episode in Hong Kong?
- Are there any past, current, or future plans as to whether the people of Taiwan will be limited from seeing this episode on your streaming service?
- As a corporation, what is Disney’s stance on the Tiananmen Square Massacre?

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<sup>1</sup> Dan Strumpf, *Disney’s Missing ‘Simpsons’ Episode in Hong Kong Raises Censorship Fears*, *The Wall Street Journal* (Nov. 29, 2021), available at [wsj.com/articles/disneys-missing-simpsons-episode-in-hong-kong-raises-censorship-fears-11638182046](https://www.wsj.com/articles/disneys-missing-simpsons-episode-in-hong-kong-raises-censorship-fears-11638182046)

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

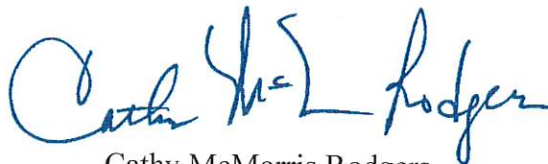
- Do you publicly acknowledge that the Tiananmen Square Massacre did occur and there was a significant loss of life at the hands of the Chinese Government?
  - What commitments are you willing to make to fight Chinese censorship when it comes to covering up past atrocities committed at the hands of the Chinese government?
  - What efforts are you taking to protect fundamental human rights and freedom of expression in China?
  - What steps are you taking to combat the CCP continued oppression of its people, on the mainland and in Hong Kong?
- Has the CCP ever requested Disney to censor content?
    - If yes, was any request met with a threat from the CCP with any inaction by Disney?
  - Has Disney ever made decisions to censor content based on the wishes of the CCP? If so, did those decisions ever prevent content from appearing in the United States market, or in other nations?
  - Please describe the process for how you interact with the Chinese government regarding the censoring of content on Disney+ or other venues, including any agreements or contracts Disney has entered into with the CCP.
  - Was China the only country where Disney+ was launched and censored content? If no, please list the additional countries and the reason for censoring content in those countries.
  - Does Disney have different moral standards for operating in China than they do in other countries? If so, why?
  - Does Disney currently have an agreement with the CCP that allows the CCP to screen current and future content?
    - If yes, please identify the specifics of the agreement and if such agreement is required for Disney to operate in Hong Kong.

We appreciate your prompt attention to this matter and look forward to your answers.

Sincerely,



Jeff Duncan  
Member of Congress



Cathy McMorris Rodgers  
Member of Congress



Greg Pence  
Member of Congress




Dan Crenshaw  
Member of Congress



Debbie Lesko  
Member of Congress



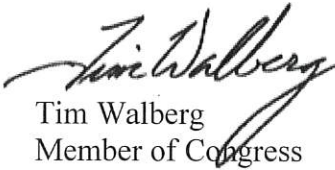
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